



CIO of the  
Commonwealth  
Lem Stewart

### *From the CIO*

VITA has established a subscription service to permit you and others in your agency to receive this monthly e-newsletter. To subscribe, please go to <http://enews.vi.virginia.gov/vita/netnews.cfm>. We pledge to keep the information to one or two pages because we are cognizant of your time restraints but know you have expressed an interest in a window into VITA. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact VITA staff listed or e-mail me directly at [cio@vita.virginia.gov](mailto:cio@vita.virginia.gov).

### **Commonwealth IT Strategic Plan set for ITIB review**

A draft of the Commonwealth Strategic Plan for Information Technology will go before the Information Technology Investment Board (ITIB) at its April 5-6 meeting. The plan, when approved, will provide guidance and direction for technology decisions in the Commonwealth. It was developed using stakeholder input from the ITIB, citizen and business representatives, government and IT leaders, Council on Technology Services (COTS) members, higher education representatives, legislators and legislative staff. The project team also worked with the Department of Planning and Budget and the Executive Director of the Council on Virginia's Future to ensure that the strategic plan fits into the Commonwealth's existing planning cycle and aligns to Virginia's eight long-term objectives set by the Council. The plan will be posted online after it receives final approval.



### **IT Infrastructure Partnership work continues**



VITA continues to work with Northrop Grumman to plan for the IT Infrastructure Partnership. Employees "in scope" to the partnership have been informed of their status and are being invited to employee meetings to

learn more about Northrop Grumman. Letters offering employment are expected to go out on May 1, 2006. Service commencement is expected July 1, 2006, pending final approvals of the "caboose" bill by the General Assembly. More information is available online at <http://www.vita.virginia.gov/itpartnership/index.cfm>

### **IT Security Policy and Standards**

The IT Security Policy and Standards are expected to be finalized in June 2006. VITA will conduct workshops to assist agencies in understanding and carrying out their responsibilities. Agencies are to be applauded for their reviews of the draft policy and standards — 543 comments were provided and much of that input has been incorporated.

## **Matrix defines IT security and roles, responsibilities**

A matrix has been created to assist agencies and VITA in defining roles and responsibilities regarding IT security and audit. An IT security template has been developed to assist agencies in communicating information concerning high-risk systems and specific security needs. The matrix and template will be distributed within the month, and should assist in mitigating some IT security risks identified in recent APA audit reports.

## **Cost of desktop antivirus reduced**



VITA has selected McAfee as the desktop antivirus software standard and now offers a two-year licensee cost of \$5.74 for the first year and \$5.10 for each year thereafter for state agencies for each PC. The average cost to some agencies of their current desktop antivirus is \$32 for two years, so this represents a significant savings. For more information, contact your Regional Service Director or Enterprise Business Director.

## **Disaster recovery test slated April 7**

VITA will conduct its annual disaster recovery test April 7-9. All central systems will be tested at the backup site. Participating agencies will help ensure that systems can be restored in the event of a disaster.

## **277 qualified to manage IT projects**

The number of Project Manager Development Program (PMPD) participants qualified to manage major IT projects increased by 32 percent over the past year, and now includes 277 participants who can manage projects under \$100,000, 126 who can manage projects between \$100,000 and \$1 million, and 99 who can manage projects totaling \$1 million or more.

## **SMSA assisting agencies in hiring IT contractors**

Supplier Managed Staff Augmentation (SMSA) is providing agencies with an efficient, time-saving tool for hiring IT contractors. In the first 44 days of operation, 68 contractors were placed in 18 agencies. Of those 68 positions, 47 percent were filled through SWAM IT suppliers. Currently, there are 74 active IT contractor suppliers involved in the SMSA network, with an additional 16 suppliers going through the process of joining the network. Of the 74, 35 percent are SWAM suppliers. More information is available at <http://www.vita.virginia.gov/procurement/smsa.cfm>.



## **Plans required to address IT accessibility**

Agency IT Accessibility Implementation Plans are due May 4, 2006. Separate from Web accessibility, this plan covers non-Web software applications, desktop and portable PCs, copiers and other items. VITA is planning workshops to help agencies that need assistance with state and federally mandated non-Web IT accessibility. Send completed plans and address questions to Eric Perkins at [eric.perkins@vita.virginia.gov](mailto:eric.perkins@vita.virginia.gov).